Appointment of non-Indians as pilots in domestic Airlines

2182. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some domestic airlines/airways have employed non-Indians as their pilots on higher emoluments/perks; and

(b) if so, whether trained Indian pilots are not available in the country or their talent is not upto the expectation of domestic airlines/airways authority?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) In accordance with the existing policy a domestic air transport sector operator is permitted to employ foreign pilots/engineers till he is able to train his own manpower. However, it is permitted only with the express approval of the competent authority and for such period and terms as may be prescribed by the said authority.

At present no foreign pilot is operating flights of any scheduled domestic airlines. However, foreign pilots have been permitted to operate international cargo flights and helicopters within the country for a limited period till sufficient number of Indian pilots are trained by the operators and acquire appropriate licence and adequate experience to replace the foreign pilots. Emoluments and perks are fixed by the Indian operator considering various factors.

Shortage of trained Indian pilots generally occurs when newer types of aircraft, not earlier used in India, are used by a domestic operator.

इन्दौर विमानपत्तन का विकास

2183. **श्री राधाकिशन मालवीय:** क्या नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या इन्दौर विमानपत्तन के विकास और विस्तार के लिये अतिरिक्त भूमि आवंटित करने हेतु एक प्रस्ताव मध्य प्रदेश सरकार के पास भेजा गया है क्योंकि इन्दौर एक प्रमुख औद्योगिक नगर है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इन्दौर विमानपत्तन के विकास कार्य को कब तक पूरा कर लिया जाएगा?

नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री अनंत कुमार): (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) यह प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Delayed flight services at metro cities

2184. SHRI V.N. GADGIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian Airlines flights from and to the four Metropolitan cities viz. Delhi, Calcutta, Chennai and Mumbai got delayed in the last three years; and

(b) whether the delays were due to fog in Delhi; if so, what steps Government have taken to overcome the fog-menace?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) The details of Indian Airlines/ Alliance Air flights delayed from the four Metro cities of Delhi, Calcutta, Chennai and Mumbai during the last three years are as under:—

	Total Take offs.	Delays due to weather	Other delays	Total delays
1996	70188	1208	18026	19234
1997	77180	1624	21721	23345
1998	73511	1433	19561	20994

To overcome the menace of fog in